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The Human Rights and Alliance of Civilizations Room — the meeting room of the UN Human Rights Council in the Palace of Nations in Geneva

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CHINA, PAKISTAN RE-ELECTED TO UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Despite their dismal human rights record, the two countries made it to the UNHRC with 139 and 169 votes, respectively

HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSERS IN WORLD BODY

Not just China and Pakistan, the world body has a number of countries with questionable credentials such as Cuba, Ivory Coast, Malawi, Senegal, Libya, Somalia, Mauritania, Ukraine and Russia sitting as judges to determine human rights violations. Saudi Arabia, one of the worst human rights violators, contested but failed as it received only 90 votes

ACTIVISTS, POMPEO HIT OUT AT UNHRC

- "UN's newest world judges on human rights include Pakistan, which persecutes Christians, Hindus, and China, which herded one million Uighurs into camps," said international lawyer Hillel Neuer
- US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the US now stands vindicated for its decision to quit the Council in 2018

39 countries
HAD CRITICISED CHINA LAST WEEK FOR ITS TREATMENT OF UIGHUR MUSLIMS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Water flowing over the Moosarambagh bridge in Hyderabad after the Himayatsagar dam gates were opened | VIRAY MARAPU

Flood toll 32 and counting

Hyderabad stays inundated; swollen rivers snap road connectivity to Andhra villages

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad/Vijayawada

A day after driving rain paralysed Telangana and Andhra Pradesh after a deep depression made landfall, accounts of the nightmares the people went through began unfolding since Wednesday morning.

As the day wore on, the toll in Telangana climbed to 32, including 25 within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) limits and seven in the erstwhile Mahabubnagnar district. Inundation of all thoroughfares and colonies in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad remained unchanged for the second day with the GHMC's efforts to drain the water out coming a cropper.

In Andhra Pradesh, both the East and West Godavari districts continued to bear the brunt of the floods as inflows from upstream areas cut off road connectivity to villages and many inundated houses in the two districts. In East Godavari district, seven mandals were inundated after the gates of the Yeleru reservoir were opened. More than 2,700 people from the affected villages have been shifted to safer places. Heavy inflows into Krishna, Godavari, Vamsadhara and other rivers are continuing.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi called Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy over the telephone and took stock of the situation.

In Telangana, the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) at Shamshabad remained inaccessible for those who used PVNR Expressway till Wednesday evening with the National Highway No 44 near Aramgadh being washed away.

While the operation of flights was restored in the early hours of Wednesday, reaching the airport was a pain as one had to take a detour via the Outer Ring Road. On the Hyderabad-Vijayawada national highway too, there was dislocation of vehicular traffic at Hayatnagar on Hyderabad's outskirts. P7

TELANGANA

32 cm rainfall in Ghatkesar town

Ghatkesar, a small town on Hyderabad's outskirts, bore the brunt of the fury as it recorded 32 cm rainfall, the highest in the entire state. Power shutdowns added to the agony. Even in posh areas like Begumpet, Banjara Hills and Jubilee Hills, it took long for power restoration

ANDHRA PRADESH

98 villages affected, over 5,000 evacuated

As many as 98 villages across Andhra Pradesh have been affected and more than 5,000 people were evacuated to 19 relief centres. At least 72 houses were damaged while the crop loss is yet to be ascertained as flood waters are yet to recede. Four teams each of NDRF and SDRF have been deployed

2nd Covid-19 wave amid winter chills

CHETANABELAGERE
@ Bengaluru

WHILE there seems to be some sense of relief over the reduction in the number of Covid-19 cases across the country, it's not the time to drop guard yet, as a second wave might be witnessed soon after winter, warn epidemiologists. "Looking at the time when we hit the peak in India, the considerable decline in cases, and the way the virus is behaving, we could see a second wave hit the country sometime during the winter or after the season," a senior virologist pointed out.

However, experts feel that the coming of the second wave should be looked at separately in each state and also in the districts.

"Though we are seeing a decline in numbers in the country, we can't say that it's the same for all states. We can talk about a second wave in Karnataka when there is decline in cases in the first wave," explained Dr Giridhara Babu, senior epidemiologist and also advisor to the state government on Covid-19 management.

KARNATAKA
COVID-19 BATTLE

9,265 Test Positive on Wednesday

7,35,371 TOTAL CASES

10,198 Total Deaths | **6,11,167** Total Discharges

CM Yediyurappa directs Dakshina Kannada DC to provide free treatment to a teacher whose daughter's message went viral

30 staffers at Water Resources Dept Chief Engineer's office test positive, premises shut for 3 days

• FULL COVERAGE P3

The Niti Ayog has recently pointed out that states like Kerala, Karnataka and West Bengal have to be more careful as the case load is going up there. However, Dr Jacob John, senior virologist and former professor at Christian Medical College, Vellore, and also member of ICMR, explains, "When we look at all over India, we hit the peak some time in September first week and now we are seeing a considerable decline. One must understand that this data is cumulative of all states put together."

He explained that when states are viewed individually, except for Kerala, none of the other states have seen any considerable decline as such.

Dr Giridhara Babu said the state governments should now mainly look at the districts and zones where there had been no surge in cases but are now slowly witnessing new clusters. P7

BSY blows hot over rising virus case load

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

JUST days after bringing the Health and Medical Education departments under one ministry, Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Wednesday reviewed the Covid-19 management through video conference from his home office 'Krishna' and expressed strong displeasure about the rising numbers in Bengaluru. He pointed out to failures in disease management and strictly warned the officials that such mistakes will not be tolerated anymore.

On Wednesday, Bangalore Urban district recorded 4,574 new cases and 27 fatalities. In comparison, Bidar district saw a mere 19 cases and no fatalities, Chamarajnagar recorded 97 positive cases and one fatality while Belagavi recorded 297 positive cases and one fatality. In Bagalkot, there were 158 new cases and two fatalities while in Ballari, there were 275 cases and three fatalities.

While Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar and Deputy CM Dr C N Ashwath Narayana, Chief Secretary Vijay Bhaskar, Chief Minister's ACS E V Ramana Reddy, BBMP Commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad were present at 'Krishna', the zonal in-charge ministers V Somanna, Byrati Basavaraj and K Gopalaiah joined through video conference. P7

Show time and festive season under Covid-19 cloud

AT MULTIPLEXES AND SINGLE-SCREEN THEATRES (OPEN FROM TODAY)

- Masks, social distancing, sanitisation
- Thermal screening at entry
- Contactless payments to be encouraged
- Only packed food and beverages allowed
- No delivery of food, beverages inside theatre
- Strict action by auditorium manager/local authorities for non-compliance
- Non-occupiable seats to be marked in online booking
- Row-wise movement of visitors
- Only 50 pc of total seating capacity allowed
- No overlapping of multiple film intermissions; staggered film timings

DARASA AND DEEPAVALI CELEBRATIONS

Eco-friendly, pollution-free Dasara, Deepavali

ON OCT 17
Only 200 permitted at Chamundi hills

OCT 26
Only 300 permitted at Mysuru Palace

- Mask, sanitiser, social distancing
- Follow fire safety, police, local body norms
- RT-PCR test mandatory for all those participating, visiting Mysuru Dasara
- Only 100 permitted at Dasara pandals, gatherings across state
- Virtual Mysuru Dasara celebrations encouraged
- Cracker stalls from Nov 1-17
- 6-metre distance between stalls must
- Burst crackers as per KSPCB rules
- Violators will be booked under NDMA Act

RAIN FURY IN NORTH K'TAKA

Police personnel rescue a child from a flooded house in Kalaburagi on Wednesday (Right). North Karnataka is reeling under a spell of torrential rains since Tuesday, which has wreaked havoc on life and property in the region. While one person died in Kalaburagi, crops and infrastructure across Bidar and Belagavi saw extensive damage. Incessant rains also lashed Udupi district

KNOW YOUR LEADER

Voila! Muniratna's assets doubled in just 2 years

ANUSHA RAVI @ Bengaluru

A businessman, film producer and landlord, the BJP's candidate for Rajarajeshwari Nagar Assembly constituency, Muniratna's self-declared assets grew over 100 per cent in just the last two years. According to Muniratna's election affidavit filed on Wednesday, the 56-year-old has valued his personal movable assets at ₹26,11,16,191 (₹26.11 crore) while the market value of immovable properties is ₹51,91,97,400 (₹51.91 crore). These numbers are excluding assets owned by his spouse.

In 2018, when Muniratna contested as a Congress candidate from the same constituency, he had valued his movable assets at ₹8,71,87,341 (₹8.71 crore) and immovable assets at ₹27,94,48,400 (₹27.94 crore). In two years, his self-declared assets have jumped from ₹36,66,35,741 (₹36.66 crore) in 2018 to ₹78,03,13,591 (₹78.03 crore) in 2020, a huge hike of 112 per cent. Not just assets, the number of criminal cases against Muniratna too increased from three in 2018 to five in 2020.

Congress' Sira candidate T B Jayachandra's assets have gone up from ₹13,05,92,204 (₹13.05 crore) to Rs 14,43,81,409 (₹14.4 crore). Jayachandra has two criminal cases pending against him.

Candidates from all three major political parties — the BJP, the Congress and the JDS — have filed their nominations for the bypolls to the Sira and Rajarajeshwari Nagar assembly seats. BJP's Sira candidate Dr Rajesh Gowda, however, has not filed his affidavits detailing assets, liabilities, etc. P4

RAJARAJESHWARI NAGAR

H KUSUMA
Party: Indian National Congress
Income shown as per 2019-2020
IT returns: ₹3,67,870

KRISHNAMURTHY V
Party: JDS
Income shown as per 2019-2020
IT returns: NIL

MUNIRATNA
Party: BJP
Income shown in 2018-2019
IT returns: ₹52,85,710

SIRA

TB JAYACHANDRA
Party: Indian National Congress
Income shown as per 2019-2020
IT returns: ₹ 68,01,856

AMMAJAMMA
Party: JDS
Income shown as per 2019-2020
IT returns: ₹3,15,822

DR RAJESH GOWDA
(Affidavit not uploaded yet)
Party: BJP
Income shown as per 2019-2020
IT returns: - NA

LOAN MORATORIUM

Expedite waiver, aam aadmi's Diwali in govt's hands: SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Wednesday directed the Centre to waive 'interest on interest' on loans up to ₹2 crore soon, while pulling up the government for taking so much time to implement a decision already taken. It rejected the Centre's request for one month's time and adjourned the matter for November 2.

The court's direction came while hearing a batch of petitions seeking interest waiver during the loan moratorium.

During the hearing, the Centre argued it needed more time to complete certain formalities. At this, Justice M R Shah, who was part of the three-judge bench, said, "The common man's Diwali is now in the government's hands."

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the bench that the government's decision would come into effect before November 15. "Banks will waive interest on interest and then be compensated by government and the calculation will have different modalities. We will have to ensure that banks give us a proper format."

However, the bench was not convinced with the November 15 deadline. "Why one month's time to implement such a small decision? Benefits of government's concessions to borrowers up to ₹2 crore must be implemented as soon as possible," it said.

To clarify the deadline, Mehta said, "November 15 is the outer limit for implementation but the government will try to implement it even earlier than that."

Senior advocate Harish Salve, representing the banks' association, said banks are awaiting the RBI circular.

"If the government has already decided to exempt small borrowers from interest on interest, it should not be debited from accounts," the bench observed.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
सिंडिकेट Syndicate
Khushiyon ki Bahar, Apke Dwar
Canara Retail Utsav
Oct, 2020 to Jan, 2021
Canara Education Loan
Canara Home Loan
Canara Personal Loan
Canara Vehicle Loan
Canara Gold Loan
Attractive Rate of Interest
Together We Can
Lower EMI
Lifelong Relationship
Strong Presence
Conditions apply
Safe and convenient banking through our integrated delivery channels:
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